

CLAIM AMENDMENTS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Currently Amended) A method ~~of indicating connectivity~~ comprising:

determining whether establishing a communication link is established between a modem ~~of a user~~ and a network aggregation point;
~~authorizing access by the modem to an information service;~~
visually indicating an existence of the communication link at a first location of the modem when the communication link is established; and
determining whether the modem has access to an information service; and
visually indicating an ~~availability~~ accessibility of the information service at a second location of the modem when the modem has access to the information service.
2. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, further comprising:
utilizing a first light emitting diode to indicate whether ~~the existence of the~~ communication link is established; and
utilizing a second light emitting diode to indicate whether the modem has access to ~~availability of the~~ information service.
3. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, further comprising executing a Point to Point Protocol over Ethernet client in connection with establishing the communication link.
4. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, further comprising communicating a user credential to an authentication server ~~in connection with authorizing to request~~ access to the information service.
5. (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising communicating information from the information service to the modem via the network aggregation point.

6. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the modem comprises a user interface having visual display capabilities.

7. (Original) The method of claim 6, wherein the user interface comprises the first location and the second location.

8. (Cancelled).

9. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the modem comprises ~~an xDSL~~ a digital subscriber line (DSL) modem.

10. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the modem comprises a cable modem.

11. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the network aggregation point comprises a cable modem termination system.

12. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the network aggregation point comprises a digital subscriber line access multiplexer.

13. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, further comprising disabling ~~an~~ the visual indication of the existence of the communication link in response to recognizing a loss of the established communication link.

14. (Currently Amended) A ~~connectivity indication~~ system, comprising:
a display element coupled to a housing component, wherein the display element
~~comprising~~ includes a visual display portion; and wherein the housing component
at least partially ~~defining~~ defines an enclosure;
a broadband modem unit secured within the enclosure;
a link detection mechanism communicatively coupled to the broadband modem unit and
operable to output a link signal in response to a determination that a
communication link exists between the broadband modem unit and a network
aggregation point;
a data detection mechanism operable to output an access signal in response to a
recognition that ~~the broadband modem unit enjoys access to~~ a remote information
service is accessible from the broadband modem unit;
a first indicator operable to be displayed within the display element in response to the
link signal; and
a second indicator operable to be displayed within the display element in response to the
access signal.

15. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 14, wherein the display element
comprises a plurality of light emitting diodes within the visual display portion, and further
wherein the first indicator comprises a first lighted one of the plurality of light emitting diodes
and the second indicator comprises a ~~different~~ second lighted one of the plurality of light
emitting diodes.

16. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 14, wherein the broadband modem unit
comprises a cable modem.

17. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 14, wherein the broadband modem unit
comprises a digital subscriber line (DSL) ~~an xDSL~~ modem.

18. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 14, further comprising a point to point protocol over Ethernet (PPPoE) client executing on a processor secured within the enclosure.

19. (Currently Amended) A method of ~~generating connectivity awareness~~ comprising:
providing a subscriber with a broadband modem comprising ~~at least~~ a first indicator
operable to display a connectivity status indicating whether a connection exists
between the broadband modem and a network aggregation node and a second
indicator operable to display a data status indicating ~~an availability of~~ whether the
broadband modem has access to a remote information service node; and
providing a broadband data service to the subscriber.

20. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 19, further comprising:
receiving a trouble shooting request from the subscriber, the trouble shooting request
relating to the broadband service; and
prompting the user to observe the first indicator and the second indicator.

21. (Original) The method of claim 20, further comprising:
receiving a communication indicating that the first indicator displays a positive
connectivity status and the second indicator displays a negative data status; and
determining an appropriate suggestion responsive to the trouble shooting request.

22. (New) The method of claim 1, further comprising disabling the visual indication of
the accessibility of the information service in response to recognizing a loss of accessibility of
the information service.